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FBI AGENT CHARGED AS COMMUNIST SPY

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THE first FBI agent ever accused of betraying his country, appeared in court yesterday, charged as a Communist spy.

Richard Miller, 47, a father of eight, a 20-year veteran and one of the most trusted men in the agency, appeared in federal court in San Diego, Cal., after confessing his role in a spy plot to astonished fellow agents.

The bombshell arrest occurred only 24 hours after a 67-year-old East German woman was nabbed in New York trying to smuggle secrets through the Iron Curtain.

In San Diego, FBI agent Miller had become involved in a love-trap with a beautiful 34-year-old Russian Mata Hari who tempted him further with gold bullion.

She and her husband are also charged with spying. They appeared in court in Los Angeles yesterday.

KGB Major Svetlana Ogorodnikova and her estranged husband, Nicolay, 51, also a KGB operative, lived under deep cover in a Soviet emigre community in Los Angeles, according to the FBI.

Miller, working in the highly sensitive counter-intelligence field, met them through his work among emigres.

News of the arrest rocked the FBI — whose motto is Fidelity, Bravery, Integrity — and Justice Dept. yesterday.

FBI agents investigating the case said that his relationship with Mrs.

Ogorodnikova "became a personal one" but would neither confirm nor deny reports they were having a sexual relationship.

Miller and Svetlana Ogorodnikova met in May 1984, then continued to meet regularly throughout the summer, according to investigators.

Miller, who was having serious financial problems supporting eight children and homes in Los Angeles and San Diego, confided in her and she was sympathetic and supportive.

At some point in their relationship, Mrs. Ogorodnikova, who posed as a nurse, and Nicolay, who posed as a blue collar worker in a processed meat plant, asked Miller to turn traitor.

The special agent in charge of the Los Angeles field office, Bryce Christensen, told a news conference that Miller and the two KGB officers held a crucial meeting in mid-August in a Hollywood apartment.

Miller allegedly gave her a copy of a secret FBI document called "Reporting Guidance: Foreign Intelligence Information."

According to the FBI, the document would have given a detailed picture of FBI and U.S. intelligence activities and techniques.

The document was delivered to the Soviet consulate in San Francisco by Mrs. Ogorodnikova while on a trip there with Miller, according to FBI agents.

Miller was also asked to deliver secret FBI documents to a contact in Mexico City.

Miller agreed — but demanded in return \$50,000 in gold bullion, \$7000 in cash and \$1000 traveling expenses.

Nicolay Ogorodnikov reportedly told Miller the sum and means of payment were "no problem."

There was also a separate plan to travel to Vienna and Warsaw with Mrs. Ogorodnikova, according to Christensen.

Although Miller appeared in federal court in San Diego yesterday, arraignment was postponed until today. No plea was entered.

G-men knew beauty was agent

THE FBI appears to have known for two years that the beautiful Mata Hari in the FBI spy case was a Soviet agent.

According to FBI documents released yesterday after the arrest of agent Richard Miller, Svetlana Ogorodnikova was interviewed by G-men in 1982.

The KGB major admitted then that she worked closely with the Soviet consul-general Aleksandr Chikvaldze and vice consul Viktor Zonov in San Francisco, for whom she had handled various assignments.

One of those assignments was an attempt to persuade a Soviet defector to return to the Soviet Union.

Another was dealing with a potential mutiny on a Soviet ship in San Pedro in 1980 — which she quelled by ordering the ship's lieutenant to

arrest his executive officer.

No action appears to have been taken against her — and it is unclear why she continued to operate when her cover was almost certainly blown.

Her husband, Nicolay, from whom she is separated, emigrated to the U.S. in 1973 and stayed for a short time in New York City, according to information released at his arraignment yesterday.

He claims to have been arrested by the Soviet authorities in 1965 and accused of being an American agent. The charges were apparently not pursued.

The Ogorodnikovs have a 12-year-old son and are involved in a custody fight. The boy's whereabouts have not been released.